

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-18 (Canceled).

Claim 19 (New): An image forming apparatus, comprising:

a main body having a receiving portion;

a plurality of imaging units, each imaging unit configured to develop electrostatic latent images with toner;

a holding unit configured to hold the imaging units, and being detachably attached to the main body through the receiving portion; and

a plurality of toner feeding devices provided separately from the plurality of imaging units, each toner feeding device including a toner feeding mechanism,

wherein the plurality of toner feeding devices and the plurality of imaging units are detachably engaged to each other, and each of the toner feeding mechanisms is configured to extend into and supply toner to a corresponding one of the plurality of imaging units.

Claim 20 (New): The image forming apparatus according to Claim 19, wherein the toner feeding mechanisms are configured to protrude from the main body into the receiving portion when extending into a corresponding one of the plurality of imaging units.

Claim 21 (New): The image forming apparatus according to Claim 20, wherein each imaging unit includes an aperture to allow the toner feeding mechanism to extend therethrough.

Claim 22 (New): The image forming apparatus according to Claim 21, wherein the aperture is located on a side surface of the imaging unit.

Claim 23 (New): The image forming apparatus according to Claim 21, wherein each imaging unit includes a sealing member to prevent toner from exiting the imaging unit through the aperture.

Claim 24 (New): The image forming apparatus according to Claim 19, wherein the plurality of imaging units comprise four imaging units lined substantially in a row in the holding unit.

Claim 25 (New): The image forming apparatus according to Claim 24, wherein each imaging unit includes a developing device configured to develop the electrostatic latent image, and an image carrier configured to carry the electrostatic latent image.

Claim 26 (New): The image forming apparatus according to claim 25, wherein the four imaging units are configured to form cyan, magenta, yellow, and black toner images, respectively.

Claim 27 (New): The image forming apparatus according to Claim 26, wherein each imaging unit further comprises a cleaning device configured to remove residual toner on the respective image carrier.

Claim 28 (New): The image forming apparatus according to claim 27, further comprising a plurality of toner storing devices configured to store respective residual toner removed by the plurality of cleaning devices, the toner storing devices are provided separately from the imaging units.

Claim 29 (New): The image forming apparatus according to Claim 28, further comprising a plurality of intermediate transfer devices configured to transfer toner images formed on the plurality of image carriers onto a recording medium.

Claim 30 (New): A method of forming an image, comprising:  
forming electrostatic latent images;  
developing the electrostatic latent images with toner using a plurality of imaging units configured to be held by a holding unit which is detachably attachable to a receiving portion of an imaging apparatus main body;  
transferring toner to the imaging units from a plurality of toner feeding devices separate from and detachably engagable to the plurality of imaging units, the toner being transferred through toner feeding mechanisms capable of extending into a corresponding one of the plurality of imaging units; and  
transferring the developed images to a recording medium to form a composite color image.

Claim 31 (New): The method of forming an image according to Claim 30, wherein the toner feeding mechanisms protrude into the receiving portion when extending into the corresponding imaging unit.

Claim 32 (New): The method of forming an image according to Claim 31, wherein each imaging unit includes an aperture to allow the toner feeding mechanism to extend therethrough.

Claim 33 (New): The method of forming an image according to Claim 32, further comprising preventing toner from exiting the imaging unit through the aperture when the toner feeding mechanism does not extend through the aperture.

Claim 34 (New): The method of forming an image according to Claim 30, wherein the plurality of imaging units comprise four imaging units lined substantially in a row in the holding unit.

Claim 35 (New): The method of forming an image according to Claim 34, wherein each imaging unit includes an image carrier configured to carry the electrostatic latent image.

Claim 36 (New): The method of forming an image according to Claim 34, further comprising configuring the four imaging units to form cyan, magenta, yellow, and black toner images, respectively.

Claim 37 (New): The method of forming an image according to Claim 35, further comprising removing residual toner on the respective image carrier.

Claim 38 (New): The method of forming an image according to Claim 37, further comprising storing the residual toner from each of the imaging units in a corresponding toner storing device, the toner storing devices provided separate from the imaging units.

Claim 39 (New): The method of forming an image according to Claim 38, further comprising transferring toner images formed on the plurality of image carriers onto a recording medium using a plurality of intermediate transfer devices.

Claim 40 (New): An image forming apparatus, comprising:  
a plurality of developing means for developing electrostatic latent images with toner;  
holding means for holding the plurality of developing means;  
attaching means for detachably attaching the plurality of developing means to a main body through a receiving portion of the main body; and  
a plurality of supplying means for supplying toner to a corresponding one of the developing means, the supplying means provided separately from the developing means, each supplying means including a means for feeding,  
wherein the supplying means and the developing means are detachably engaged to each other, and each of the means for feeding toner extends into and supplies toner to a corresponding one of the developing means.

Claim 41 (New): The image forming apparatus according to Claim 40, wherein the means for feeding toner are configured to protrude from the main body into the receiving portion when extending into the developing means.

Claim 42 (New): The image forming apparatus according to Claim 41, wherein each developing means includes an aperture to allow the means for feeding toner to extend therethrough.

Claim 43 (New): The image forming apparatus according to Claim 42, further comprising sealing means for sealing the aperture to prevent toner from exiting the developing means through the aperture.

Claim 44 (New): The image forming apparatus according to Claim 40, wherein the plurality of developing means includes four developing means lined substantially in a row in the holding means.

Claim 45 (New): The image forming apparatus according to Claim 44, wherein each developing means includes carrier means for carrying the electrostatic latent image.

Claim 46 (New): The image forming apparatus according to claim 45, wherein the four developing means are configured to form cyan, magenta, yellow, and black toner images, respectively.

Claim 47 (New): The image forming apparatus according to Claim 46, wherein each developing means includes cleaning means for cleaning residual toner on the respective carrier means.

Claim 48 (New): The image forming apparatus according to claim 47, further comprising storing means for storing respective residual toner removed by the cleaning means, the storing means is provided separately from the developing means.

Claim 49 (New): The image forming apparatus according to Claim 48, further comprising a plurality of transferring means for transferring toner images formed on the carrier means onto a recording medium.